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Letter dated 28 April 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel and to inform you of my intention to appoint Hiroute Guebre Sellassie (Ethiopia) as the new Special Envoy for the Sahel and Head of the Office.

Ms. Guebre Sellassie has held senior-level positions with the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as Head of the Regional Office in North Kivu and Head of Office in Kasai Occidental. She has many years of experience as a legal analyst, as well as a regional peacebuilding and conflict management adviser in the private and non-governmental organization sectors. She has served as an international consultant for joint initiatives between the United Nations, the African Union and the World Bank on the role of women in conflict prevention and resolution. I am confident that, as the new Head of the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel, she will successfully lead the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel.

I take this opportunity to reiterate my deep appreciation to my former Special Envoy, Romano Prodi, who successfully raised awareness about the challenges facing the Sahel region and developed the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel. I would also like to thank my Special Representative for West Africa, Said Djinnit, for his strategic leadership of the Office, pending the finalization of the recruitment process.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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